(a) whether it is a fact that the first meeting of the Indo-Chinese Sub-Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation concluded in New Delhi on 1st April, 1989;

(b) if so, what were the main points discussed;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

The First Meeting of the India-China Sub-Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation was held in New Delhi on March 30-31, 1989, when discussions were held on bilateral cooperation in Science and Technology between the two countries.

A number of areas of common interest, including, agriculture, biotechnology, medicine, lasers, electronics, waste water treatment, low cost sanitation, radio astronomy etc. were identified for bilateral cooperation. This would be affected through (a) the study visits of working scientists to explore the scope of cooperation and identifying themes of common interest, (b) holding of joint workshops with similar objectives, and (c) formulating joint proposals for further implementation.

Damage done by the Computer Virus

216. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 20 city-based companies, including a foreign bank, have been paralysed by computer virus;

(b) whether experts have expressed the opinion that if the things are allowed to drift, this virus could damage the hardware which are expensive and difficult to replace; and

(c) if so, whether Government have conducted any enquiry about the reasons for computer virus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Reports of "Computer Virus" in Vishakapatnam, Bombay, Delhi etc., had appeared in newspapers. No specific instances of this have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Department of Electronics has set up an Expert Committee to make a detailed study of the cases of Computer viruses reported from time to time, possible reasons for spreading of such viruses and suggest remedial measures.

217. [*Transferred to the 3rd May, 1989*]

Export of domestic electronic out-put

218. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has recommended that 30 per cent of the total domestic electronic output should be exported during the 8th Five Year Plan and has also proposed far-reaching policy changes for achieving this objetive; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.